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Before the  
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 30 1998

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of )  
 ) CC Docket 95-116  
Telephone Number Portability )  
Phase III Implementation )

PETITION FOR WAIVER

The Sprint Local Telephone Companies hereby request a waiver, pursuant to Section 1.3 of the Commission's rules,<sup>1</sup> of the requirement to provide local number portability in the Greensboro MSA by June 30, 1998. The specific offices impacted by this request are listed in Attachment A appended hereto.

In its First Report and Order (as later modified),<sup>2</sup> the Commission set forth the schedule for deployment of long-term number portability ("LNP"). As a result of that Order, Phase III implementation – which includes the Greensboro MSA – is to be completed no later than June 30, 1998. The Commission also directed those companies not able to meet the June 30th deadline to file a waiver request no later than sixty days prior to the implementation deadline.

As the Commission is aware, the vendor engaged to supply the Number Portability Administration Center ("NPAC") in the Greensboro area has failed to comply with the terms of its contract and has, therefore, been dismissed. While

<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. Section 1.3.

<sup>2</sup> *In the Matter of Telephone Number Portability, First Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, CC Docket 95-116, released June 26, 1996.

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another experienced vendor has been employed and will supply the needed LNP platform for Phase III implementation, the delay caused by the original vendor's actions has become an obstacle for BellSouth, the dominant ILEC in the Greensboro MSA. In a waiver request filed March 2, 1998, BellSouth explained to the Commission that, because it did not have a previous relationship with the replacement vendor, it would need additional time to upgrade its systems to interact with the vendor's differing specifications for the NPAC. BellSouth has, therefore, requested an extension of each Phase of LNP deployment.<sup>3</sup> BellSouth has been granted an extension of Phase I deployment until August 31, 1998 which means that the NPAC for the Southern Region of the country will not be tested until at least July. If BellSouth's request is granted for Phase III, implementation would not take place until between January 1 and January 30, 1999.

Sprint's systems will be in place and ready to provide LNP in accordance with the Commission's June 30, 1998 deployment deadline. However, due to the situation with BellSouth, the dominant ILEC in the area, NPAC testing will necessarily be delayed. Sprint asserts that, because it is a non-dominant LEC in the Greensboro MSA, it would be imprudent for it to proceed with testing and acceptance of the NPAC in the MSA without the participation of

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<sup>3</sup> In its Order issued March 31, 1998 in this matter, the Commission granted BellSouth a waiver of Phase I implementation and noted that it would address the company's request to delay Phases II – V in a future orders.

BellSouth. Moreover, due to Sprint's non-dominant status, it did not anticipate being the sole ILEC to test the NPAC system and, therefore, does not have in place the human resources necessary to complete that task. Consequently, Sprint requests that it not be required to deploy LNP in the Greensboro MSA until BellSouth is prepared to do so.

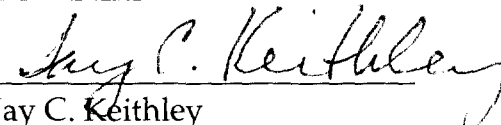
Section 1.3 of the Commission's rules states that the Commission may waive any provision of its rules if good cause is shown. Good cause is shown through the existence of special circumstances that warrant deviation from the general rule and such deviation will serve the public interest. Sprint submits that special circumstances exist in this instance. Factors outside of Sprint's control, specifically the initial vendor's failure to supply the NPAC, the introduction of a new vendor into the process and BellSouth's difficulties resulting from the vendor change, are the sole reasons for Sprint's inability to comply with the Commission's LNP deployment schedule. Because Sprint is otherwise prepared to deploy NLP, the public interest will be served, even with the grant of this waiver request, since it will introduce LNP to the Greensboro MSA as soon as possible once Sprint, along with BellSouth, has tested and accepted the NPAC system.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing reasons, Sprint respectfully requests a waiver of the June 30, 1998 deadline for deployment of LNP in the Greensboro MSA. Sprint further requests that it permitted to institute LNP in the MSA concurrent with BellSouth's implementation of the service.

Respectfully submitted,

SPRINT LOCAL TELEPHONE  
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April 30, 1998

## ATTACHMENT A

### Sprint Impacted Offices

<u>Office</u>	<u>CLLI Code</u>
Asheboro	ASBONCXADS0
Boonville	BNVLNCXARS0
Danbury	DNBRNCXARS0
Mocksville	MKVLNCXADS0
Quaker Gap	QKGPNCXARS0
Ramseur	RMSRNCXARS0
Sandy Ridge	SNRGNCXARS0
Seagrove	SEGVNCXARS0
Walkertown	WKTWNCXARS0
Walnut Cove	WLCVNCXARS0
Yadkinville	YDVLNCXARS0
Gibsonville	GBVLNCXA44F
Kernersville	KRVLNCXA99F

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Melinda L. Mills, hereby certify that I have on this 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 1998, served via U.S. First Class Mail, postage prepaid, or Hand Delivery, a copy of the foregoing "Petition for Waiver" (Greensboro MSA) of Sprint Local Telephone Companies in the Matter of Telephone Number Portability Phase III Implementation, filed this date with the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, to the persons on the attached service list.

  
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Melinda L. Mills

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